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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Special Political Committee (A/45/817 and Corr.1)]

45/70. Science and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/61 of 6 December 1988, in which it proclaimed the "International Week of Science and Peace", which would take place each year during the week in which 11 November falls,

Recognizing that this celebration has generated a series of activities and initiatives leading to the study and dissemination of information on the links between progress in science and technology and the maintenance of peace and security,

Considering that progress in science and technology profoundly affects international peace and security, economic and social development, respect for human rights and many other aspects of civilization and culture,

Considering also that political and economic decisions have a decisive effect on the direction of scientific research and the use of the results obtained thereby,

Affirming that it is necessary to promote greater awareness among scientists world wide of the usefulness of science to increase international peace, security and co-operation, the social and economic development of mankind, the promotion of human rights and the protection of the environment,

Affirming, in particular, the need for scientists to establish a free and open dialogue between one another, and with political leaders and the public in general, with regard to scientific developments and their present and potential implications for our civilization,

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Considering the importance of encouraging scientists to work towards constructive objectives, to improve the climate for arms control and disarmament, and to promote a dialogue on important topics in connection with the positive contributions that scientific knowledge can make to peace, security and ecological balance,

Considering also that the celebration each year of a special week of action devoted to the topic "Science and peace" is an important means of generating and increasing public interest in this topic,

Noting with appreciation the joint efforts made by scientists and members of other professional groups to promote the achievement of those aims through the holding of the First International Week of Scientists for Peace from 10 to 16 November 1986 and every year since then during the week in which 11 November falls,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the observance of the International Week of Science and Peace in 1989 and the wide variety of activities that took place in connection with this event; 1/

2. Urges Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to encourage universities and other institutions of advanced study, scientific academies and institutes, and professional associations and individuals in the scientific community to hold, during that Week, lectures, seminars, special debates and other activities conducive to the study and dissemination of information on the links between progress in science and technology and the maintenance of peace and security;

3. Urges Member States to promote international co-operation among scientists by facilitating exchanges of experts and information;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to draw the attention of Member States and interested organizations to the importance of the International Week of Science and Peace and invite them to report to him on their activities and initiatives in connection with this event, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

65th plenary meeting
11 December 1990

1/ A/45/601, sect. II.